Avalanche Forecast

Thursday 13 12 2018

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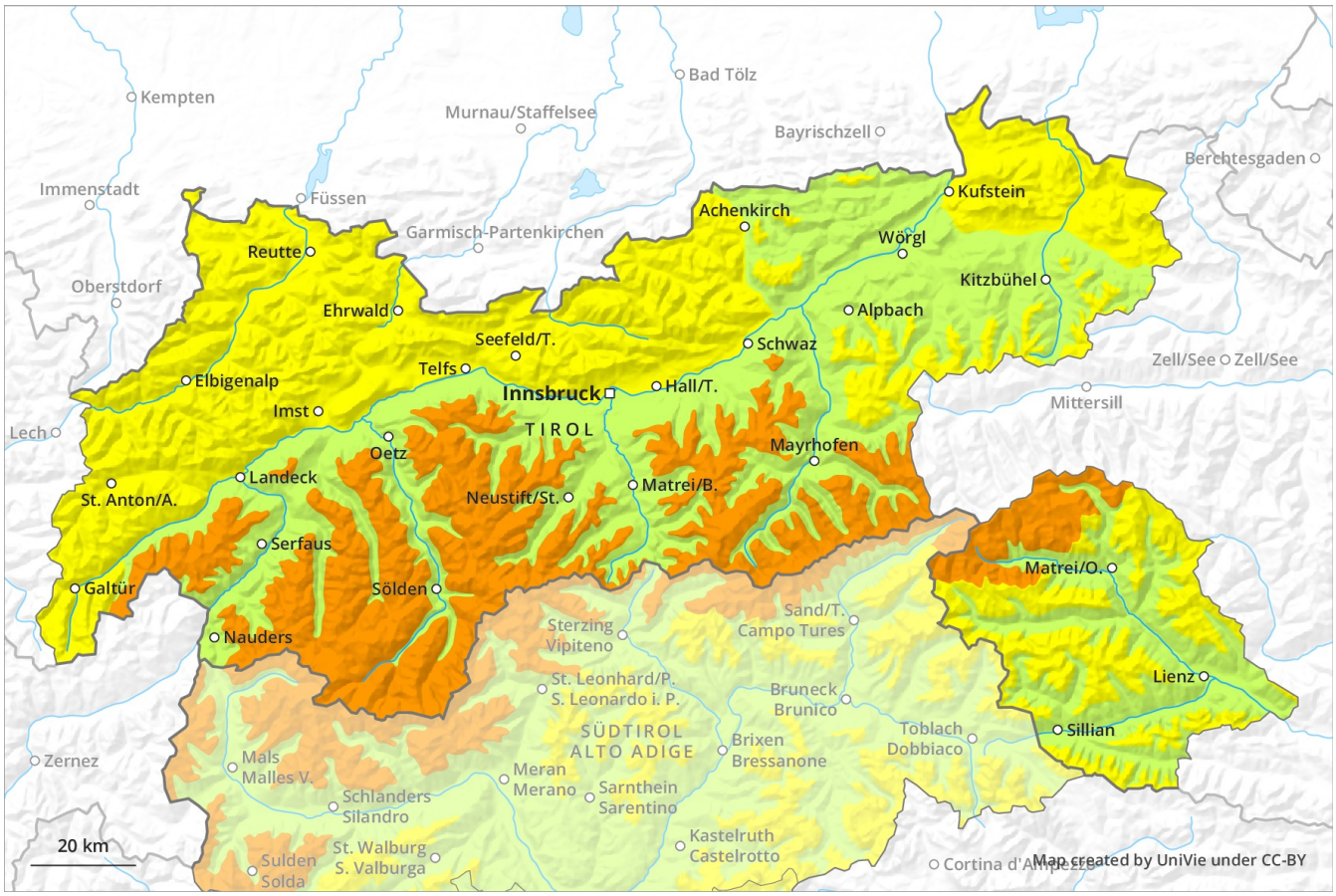
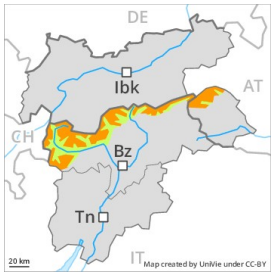
Avalanche.report



1	2	3	4	5
low	moderate	considerable	high	very high

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Treeline

Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Friday 14 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow

Treeline

Wind slabs represent the main danger. This applies in particular above the tree line.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force northwesterly wind, avalanche prone wind slabs formed in the last few days in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls. At high altitudes and in high Alpine regions avalanche prone locations are more prevalent. Wind slabs can as before be released by small loads. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger.

Snowpack

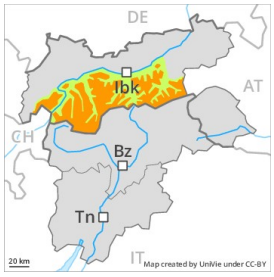
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

Over a wide area 30 to 50 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen in the last few days above approximately 2000 m. In many cases fresh snow and wind slabs are lying on the soft surface of an old snowpack. The old snowpack will be in most cases favourable.

Tendency

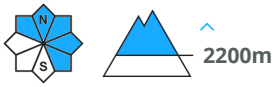
Further decrease in danger.

Danger Level 3 - Considerable



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Friday 14 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Persistent weak layer

Wind slabs and weakly bonded old snow require caution.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force wind from northwesterly directions, extensive wind slabs formed since Saturday. The fresh wind slabs can be released by a single winter sport participant at high altitudes and in high Alpine regions. The wind slabs are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. Weak layers in the lower part of the snowpack can be released especially by large additional loads in particular on very steep shady slopes. This applies between approximately 2400 and 2900 m. Backcountry touring and other off-piste activities call for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger and restraint. As a consequence of the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry loose snow avalanches being released will increase.

Snowpack

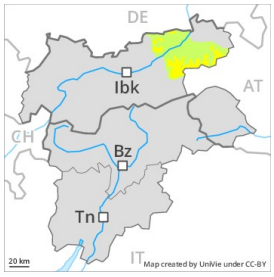
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind | dp 1: deep persistent weak layer

Over a wide area 30 to 70 cm of snow, and even more in some localities, has fallen in the last four days. The wind was strong to storm force. The extensive wind slabs are covered with fresh snow in some cases and therefore difficult to recognise. Faceted weak layers exist in the old snowpack on very steep shady slopes, in particular between approximately 2400 and 2900 m. Whumpfing sounds and the formation of shooting cracks when stepping on the snowpack serve as an alarm indicating the danger.

Tendency

Further decrease in avalanche danger.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Treeline

Tendency: Constant avalanche danger
on Friday 14 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow

Treeline

Above the tree line a moderate avalanche danger will prevail. Fresh wind slabs represent the main danger.

As a consequence of fresh snow and a strong to storm force wind from northwesterly directions, extensive wind slabs formed in the last few days. This applies especially adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls above the tree line. Especially slopes adjacent to ridgelines are precarious. Wind slabs can be released, in particular by large loads. The avalanche prone locations are covered with fresh snow and are difficult to recognise. Below the tree line from a snow sport perspective, in most cases insufficient snow is lying.

Snowpack

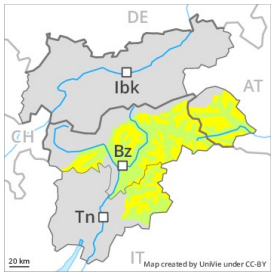
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

The extensive wind slabs of the last few days are in individual cases still prone to triggering above the tree line. These are covered with fresh snow and therefore difficult to recognise. The old snowpack will be in most cases favourable.

Tendency

Further decrease in avalanche danger.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Friday 14 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow

Fresh wind slabs require caution.

As a consequence of a strong wind from northwesterly directions, sometimes avalanche prone wind slabs formed above the tree line. At elevated altitudes the avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and larger. Weak layers in the upper part of the snowpack can be released in particular in gullies and bowls and behind abrupt changes in the terrain. Avalanches are rather small but can be released by a single winter sport participant. In particular in regions neighbouring those that are subject to danger level 3 (considerable) avalanche prone locations are more prevalent and the danger is greater.

Snowpack

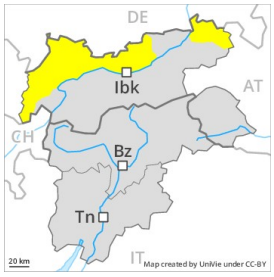
Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind

In particular in the north up to 20 cm of snow. has fallen in the last few days above approximately 2000 m. The wind slabs have settled a little.

Tendency

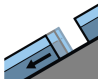
Further decrease in danger.

Danger Level 2 - Moderate



Tendency: Decreasing avalanche danger
on Friday 14 12 2018

Wind-drifted snow



Gliding snow

Wind slabs require caution. Gliding avalanches and snow slides below approximately 2400 m.

The wind slabs of the last few days have settled a little in all altitude zones. Wind slabs can be released, in particular by large loads. The avalanche prone locations are to be found in particular adjacent to ridgelines and in gullies and bowls above approximately 2200 m. Backcountry touring calls for experience in the assessment of avalanche danger. Avalanche prone locations for gliding avalanches are to be found on steep grassy slopes below approximately 2400 m. As a consequence of the solar radiation, the likelihood of dry loose snow avalanches being released will increase.

Snowpack

Danger patterns dp 6: cold, loose snow and wind | dp 2: gliding snow

The fresh snow and wind slabs of the last few days are bonding quite well with the old snowpack. The old snowpack will be in most cases favourable.

Tendency

Further decrease in avalanche danger.